

ATTENTION STATION MANAGERS AND ENGINEERS

The National Weather Service will issue TEST Weather Warnings on March 18th and 20th.

ALL TEST WARNINGS WILL BE SENT AS SPECIAL WEATHER STATEMENTS OVER NWS COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS, EXCEPT OVER OUR NOAA WEATHER RADIO, WHERE THEY WILL BE TONE ALERTED AND SENT USING THE EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM RWT (Required Weekly Test) EVENT CODE.

The National Weather Service (NWS) Upton, NY Office will use this schedule:

1. ***On Tuesday March 18th around 10:07 am,*** a TEST Severe Thunderstorm Warning will be issued for the following Counties in Southeast NY: Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Westchester, the five boroughs of NYC, Nassau, and Suffolk. The other 4 NWS Offices that serve New York State will perform this TEST at about the same time.
2. ***On Thursday, March 20th around:***
 - a. **9:40 am,** a TEST Tornado Warning will be issued for the following counties in Northeast NJ: Passaic, Bergen, Essex, Hudson, and Union. The NWS Mt. Holly NJ Office will perform this TEST at about the same time for Sussex, Warren, Morris, Hunterdon, Somerset, Middlesex and Monmouth Counties.
 - b. **10:30 am,** a TEST Flash Flood Warning will be issued for the following counties in Northeast NJ: Passaic, Bergen, Essex, Hudson, and Union. The NWS Mt. Holly NJ Office will perform this TEST at about the same time for Sussex, Warren, Morris, Hunterdon, Somerset, Middlesex and Monmouth Counties.
 - c. **1:47 pm,** a TEST Tornado Warning will be issued for the following Counties in Southeast NY: Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Westchester, the five boroughs of NYC, Nassau, and Suffolk. The other 4 NWS Offices that serve New York State will perform this TEST at about the same time.

These communication drills are part of Weather Hazards Awareness Week (the week of March 16th), which was proclaimed by New York State Governor George Pataki and by the National Weather Service for New Jersey. Emergency Managers (State, County, Town, and Local), Schools, and other people will be participating in these annual drills.

To increase regional participation and to ensure some success, we sincerely request that you participate by re-broadcasting 2 of these TEST Warnings, preferably the Severe Thunderstorm Warning on March 18th and a Tornado Warning on March 20th. Each TEST, from start tones through text and end tones, will take less than 1 minute.

If you need additional information please don't hesitate to contact Gary Conte, NWS Warning Coordination Meteorologist at gary.conte@noaa.gov or (631) 924-0593 XT. 223.